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Mr. Jonathan R. Miller, Examiner
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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<u>APPLICATION NO.:</u>	10/776,176
<u>FILING DATE:</u>	02/12/2004
<u>FIRST NAME INVENTOR:</u>	MICHEL COUTURE, (We are submitting our patent application without the services of a patent Agent)
<u>ART UNIT:</u>	3653

Sir,

This following include the answer to your communication regarding this application.

- 1- The election of the invention is « Invention I », representing a method and apparatus for separating a particle stream.
- 2- However, in our opinion:

"Invention II", is the same invention as "invention I" for the following reasons:

- the same apparatus is used without any modification;
- the separating, mixing and/or treating processes/method can occur simultaneously within the same apparatus.

We will be sending you an amended application.

We have already produced a PCT amended application (n°: PCT/CA2004/00193), and have received a positive international preliminary examination report.

We will also be sending you the ID'S Form.

Sincerely yours,

Michel Couture, President THS Inc.
360, Terrasse Robillard, Saint-André-d'Argenteuil (Québec) J0V 1X0

MC/HB/eh

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